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(COMOR-D-48/41)  
USIB-D-41.15/13  
12 July 1963  
Limited Distribution

UNITED STATES INTELLIGENCE BOARD

MEMORANDUM FOR THE UNITED STATES INTELLIGENCE BOARD

SUBJECT : ARGON Priority

REFERENCES : a. USIB-D-41.15/11, 2 July 1963  
b. Memorandum for the Chairman, USIB, from DRNO, same subject, dated 8 July 1963

Attached is a memorandum from the Chairman, USIB, to the Director, NRO, on the subject, which reflects the 10 July USIB decision on this subject.

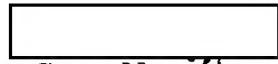
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 Executive Secretary

Attachment

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NRO review(s) completed.

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Attachment  
USIB-D-41.15/13  
12 July 1963

Limited Distribution  
(COMOR D-48/31)

UNITED STATES INTELLIGENCE BOARD  
OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN

12 July 1963

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR, NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE  
OFFICE

SUBJECT : ARGON Priority

REFERENCES : a. USIB-D-41.15/11, 2 July 1963  
b. Memorandum for the Chairman, USIB from DNRO,  
same subject, dated 8 July 1963

1. At its meeting on 10 July, the United States Intelligence Board (USIB) discussed with Mr. Kiefer your memorandum on the subject of 8 July (reference b.) in response to the recommendations of the USIB in its 2 July meeting (reference a.).

2. The USIB agreed that the photographic satellite schedule in the attachments to reference b. appear generally responsive to the intelligence requirements of the USIB provided that:

a. In the event of a failure of J-1001, NRO arranges for the conversion of J-1002 to a CORONA M and takes preparatory steps to minimize any time delay required for such conversion.

b. The question of scheduling 9059 as an ARGON is reviewed about the middle of August.

c. NRO meanwhile investigates the feasibility of moving the launching of 9059 up to early October in the event it is decided to schedule it as an ARGON.

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Attachment  
USIB-D-41.15/13  
12 July 1963

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3. Accordingly, the above action by the USIB is transmitted herewith for the guidance of NRO. It is requested that USIB be kept advised of any further developments regarding the launching schedule, with particular reference to the provisos in 2. a., b. and c. above.

/s/  
JOHN A. McCONE  
Chairman

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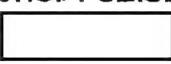
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USIB-D-41.15/20  
(COMOR-D-48/50)  
8 October 1963  
Limited Distribution

UNITED STATES INTELLIGENCE BOARD

MEMORANDUM FOR THE UNITED STATES INTELLIGENCE BOARD

SUBJECT : Need for Additional ARGON in 1963

REFERENCE : USIB-D-41.15/19 (COMOR-D-48/48),  
26 September 1963, Limited Distribution

1. Intelligence Board members are advised hereby, for information and record, that the USIB, on 4 October 1963 (through medium of vote sheet action completed on that date), approved the COMOR recommendation in paragraph 6 of the reference, viz., that Mission 9059A be fired as presently scheduled, on or about 25 October.

2. Attached, also for information, is a copy of the correspondence which transmitted the above USIB decision to the Director, National Reconnaissance Office (NRO), for appropriate further action.

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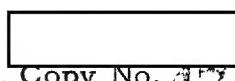


Executive Secretary

Attachment



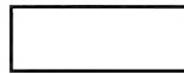
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Attachment  
USIB-D-41.15/20  
(COMOR-D-48/50)  
8 October 1963  
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UNITED STATES INTELLIGENCE BOARD  
Office of the Executive Secretary

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR, NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE  
OFFICE (NRO)

SUBJECT : Need for Additional ARGON in 1963

REFERENCE : USIB-D-41.15/19 (COMOR-D-48/48),  
26 September 1963 (copy attached)

1. Please be advised, in confirmation of our telephone report on this date to [redacted] of your office, that the United States Intelligence Board (USIB) has approved the recommendation made in the reference by its Committee on Overhead Reconnaissance (COMOR), viz., that Mission 9059A be fired as presently scheduled, on or about 25 October 1963.

2. Accordingly, the above action is referred hereby to NRO for appropriate action.

(Signed)

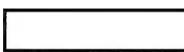
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Executive Secretary

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7 October 1963



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USIB-D-41.15/19  
(COMOR-D-48/48)  
26 September 1963

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UNITED STATES INTELLIGENCE BOARD

MEMORANDUM FOR THE UNITED STATES INTELLIGENCE BOARD

SUBJECT: Need for Additional ARGON in 1963

1. The Committee on Overhead Reconnaissance has been briefed on the results of the last ARGON, 9058A, and as a result of this briefing, in paragraph 6 recommends another ARGON during 1963.
2. 9058A had no significant malfunction and both the stellar and the main camera worked exceptionally well. However, because 9058A was limited to a 4 day mission and because it encountered bad luck with weather, significant gaps requiring coverage still exist. These factors resulted in only 985 frames over land when there was less than 50% cloud cover.
3. The briefing clearly displayed the gaps remaining in ARGON coverage and described the need to fill these with a side lap of 30%.
4. Mission 9059A promises to be better than 9058A, since it is planned as a 5 day mission rather than a 4 day mission, thus providing a capability to employ the available film supply more selectively over land areas.
5. COMOR concludes that the task of establishing sufficient geodetic position to permit optimum accuracy against targets in the USSR has not yet

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(Attachment to USIB-D-41.15/20)

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USIB -D-41.15/19  
(COMOR -D-48/48)  
26 September 1963

been achieved and needs to be completed. The Secretary of Defense in emphasizing the short-term military need for geodetic position accuracy has also emphasized the longer-term requirement in observing that all reduction in the error in our accuracy equates to a general reduction in stockpile.

6. COMOR recommends that 9059A be fired as presently scheduled, on or about 25 October.

(Signed)  
James Q. Reber  
Chairman  
Committee on Overhead  
Reconnaissance

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(Attachment to USIB -D-41.15/20)

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